Application No.: 10/538,880 Docket No.: SONYJP 3.3-1066

## IN THE CLAIMS

- 1. (currently amended) A casing body having a main body and a front surface panel having a step therebetween, said casing body further having a sharp edge formed at a corner by the step, wherein the front surface panel includes a rear end face at the step near the corner, said casing body further having a small boss positioned on the rear end face of the front surface panel near the corner such that a user's hand or finger can contact both the sharp edge at the corner and the small boss at the same time, wherein the small boss is provided at a position that allows a force from a contact of the user's hand or finger at the sharp edge at the corner to be dispersed to the sharp edge and the small boss, in which the corner is located at a rear portion of an intersection of two walls of the front surface panel and in which the small boss has a length which is larger than a width thereof.
- 2. (currently amended) A casing body having a sharp edge and a small boss positioned such that a user's hand or finger can contact both the sharp edge and the small boss at the same time, wherein the small boss is provided at a position that allows a force from a contact of the user's hand or finger at the sharp edge to be dispersed to the sharp edge and the small boss, and wherein the casing body is for an audio device and includes a main body and a front surface panel having steps in outer sides from an upper surface and side surfaces of the main body, and the sharp edge is formed on a corner part of a rear end face—portion of the front surface panel at an intersection of two walls of the front surface panel, wherein the front surface panel includes a rear end face at the step near the corner part and in which the small boss is located on the rear

end face of the front surface panel near the corner part and has a length which is larger than a width thereof.

- 3. (currently amended) A casing of an audio device, said casing comprising:
  - a main body;
- a front surface panel arranged at one end of the main body such that a step is formed between a rear portion of the front surface panel and the main body, said front surface panel having a plurality of walls each having a rear surface at the rear portion of the front surface panel in which a sharp edge exists at an upper corner formed by two adjacent rear surfaces, wherein the front surface panel includes a rear end face at the step near the corner; and
- a boss located on the rear end face of the front surface panel near the corner such that a user's finger or hand can contact the edge and the boss at the same time so that contact force associated with the contact of the user's finger or hand thereat is dispersed to the edge and the boss, in which the boss has a length which is larger than a width thereof.
- 4. (previously presented) The casing of claim 3, in which the boss has a width of approximately 0.3 millimeters and a length of approximately 2.5 millimeters.
  - 5. (canceled)
  - 6. (canceled)
- 7. (previously presented) The casing body of claim 1, in which the boss has a width of approximately 0.3 millimeters and a length of approximately 2.5 millimeters.

8. (previously presented) The casing body of claim 2, in which the boss has a width of approximately 0.3 millimeters and a length of approximately 2.5 millimeters.